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4	NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE
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6	RICHARD NICOLELLO
7	PRESIDING OFFICER
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10	LEGISLATIVE SESSION
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13	County Executive and Legislative Building
14	1550 Franklin Avenue
15	Mineola, New York
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17	
18	Monday, February 7, 2022
19	1:14 P.M.
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2	APPEARANCES:
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4	LEGISLATOR RICHARD J. NICOLELLO
5	Presiding Officer
6	9th Legislative District
7	
8	LEGISLATOR HOWARD KOPEL
9	Deputy Presiding Officer
10	7th Legislative District
11	
12	LEGISLATOR DENISE FORD
13	Alternate Presiding Officer
14	4th Legislative District
15	
16	LEGISLATOR KEVAN ABRAHAMS
17	Minority Leader
18	1st Legislative District
19	
20	LEGISLATOR SIELA BYNOE
21	2nd Legislative District
22	
23	LEGISLATOR CARRIE SOLAGES
24	3rd Legislative District
25	

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2	LEGISLATOR DEBRA MULE
3	5th Legislative District
4	
5	LEGISLATOR C. WILLIAM GAYLOR III
6	6th Legislative District
7	
8	LEGISLATOR JOHN GIUFFRE
9	8th Legislative District
10	
11	LEGISLATOR MAZI MELESA PILIP
12	10th Legislative District
13	
14	LEGISLATOR DELIA DERIGGI-WHITTON
15	11th Legislative District
16	
17	LEGISLATOR JAMES KENNEDY
18	12th Legislative District
19	
20	LEGISLATOR THOMAS MCKEVITT
21	13th Legislative District
22	
23	LEGISLATOR LAURA SCHAEFER
24	14th Legislative District
25	

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2	LEGISLATOR JOHN FERRETTI, JR.
3	15th Legislative District
4	
5	LEGISLATOR ANDREW DRUCKER
6	16th Legislative District
7	
8	LEGISLATOR ROSE WALKER
9	17th Legislative District
10	
11	LEGISLATOR JOSHUA LAFAZAN
12	18th Legislative District
13	
14	LEGISLATOR STEVEN RHOADS
15	19th Legislative District
16	
17	MICHAEL PULITZER
18	Clerk of the Legislature
19	
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- 1 Full 2-7-22
- 2 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Welcome to
- 3 the Nassau County Legislature. We're going to
- 4 call this meeting to order and ask Legislator
- 5 Rose Walker to lead us all in the Pledge of
- 6 Allegiance. Please rise.
- 7 Mike, could you call the roll
- 8 please.
- 9 MR. PULITZER: Thank you. Roll
- 10 call. Deputy Presiding Officer Howard Kopel.
- 11 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Here.
- MR. PULITZER: Alternate Deputy
- 13 Presiding Officer Denise Ford.
- 14 LEGISLATOR FORD: Here.
- MR. PULITZER: Legislator Siela
- 16 Bynoe.
- 17 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Here.
- 18 MR. PULITZER: Legislator Carrie
- 19 Solages.
- 20 LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: Here.
- MR. PULITZER: Legislator Debra
- 22 Mule.
- LEGISLATOR MULE: Here.
- MR. PULITZER: Legislator C.
- 25 William Gaylor III.

1		Ful	1 - 2-7-	-22			
2		LEG:	ISLATOR	GAYLOR	₹:	Preser	nt.
3		MR.	PULITZE	ER:	Legi	slator	John
4	Giuffre.						
5		LEG:	ISLATOR	GIUFFE	RE:	Here.	
6		MR.	PULITZE	ER:	Legi	slator	Mazi
7	Pilip Birnk	oaum	•				
8		LEG:	ISLATOR	PILIP:	:	Here.	
9		MR.	PULITZE	ER:	Legi	slator	Delia
10	DeRiggi-Wh:	ittoı	n.				
11		LEG:	ISLATOR	DERIGO	GI-WH	ITTON:	
12	Here.						
13		MR.	PULITZE	ER:	Legi	slator	James
14	Kennedy.						
15		LEG:	ISLATOR	KENNEI	Y:	Here.	
16		MR.	PULITZE	ER:	Legi	slator	Thomas
17	McKevitt.						
18		LEG:	ISLATOR	MCKEVI	TT:	Here	.
19		MR.	PULITZE	ER:	Legi	slator	Laura
20	Schaefer.						

- LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: Here.
- MR. PULITZER: Legislator John
- 23 Ferretti.
- LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Here.
- MR. PULITZER: Legislator Arnold

- 1 Full 2-7-22
- 2 Drucker.
- 3 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Here.
- 4 MR. PULITZER: Legislator Rose
- 5 Marie Walker.
- 6 LEGISLATOR WALKER: Here.
- 7 MR. PULITZER: Legislator Joshua
- 8 Lafazan. Legislator Steven Rhoads.
- 9 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Present.
- 10 MR. PULITZER: Minority Leader
- 11 Kevan Abrahams.
- 12 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Here.
- 13 MR. PULITZER: Presiding Officer
- 14 Richard Nicolello.
- 15 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Here.
- MR. PULITZER: We have quorum.
- 17 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Thank you
- 18 Mike. Just a word or two about procedures.
- 19 Today is a little bit unusual. We are having
- a meeting of the full legislature to consider
- one item and then one emergency item and then
- 22 we will be going to the committees. There
- 23 will be a public comment period before the
- full legislature starts. There's also public
- 25 comment during committees. I know I have one

- 1 Full 2-7-22
- 2 slip from one attorney Janice Whelan who
- 3 wishes to speak on the map of Toretta Estates
- 4 which will be going before the Planning
- 5 Committee in a number of minutes after we
- 6 finish with the full legislature.
- But if anyone wants to speak on
- 8 committees they can do so then or you can
- 9 speak now. We just ask that you fill out the
- 10 slip with the people at the table here.
- 11 As is our custom, it's our honor to
- 12 recognize the top cops for the month of
- 13 February and I'd like to invite the president
- of the PBA, Tom Shevlin, to come on up.
- MR. SHEVLIN: Thank you for
- 16 having us. On August 30, 2021 at 2:15 p.m.
- 17 Third Precinct police officers Patrick Castel
- 18 and Michael Chiappone responded to an
- 19 apartment complex in Floral Park for a
- 20 juvenile incident. Officer Castel arrived
- 21 first and observed a five year old hanging
- from a second-story window approximately 25
- 23 feet in the air. She was struggling to hang
- 24 on with her hands. Officer Castel was
- 25 attempting to instruct the child to re-enter

- 1 Full 2-7-22
- 2 the window. The child stated "I want to come
- 3 to the ground." Officer Castel remained
- 4 beneath the window, ready to catch the child
- 5 should she fall.
- 6 Officer Chiappone then arrived and
- 7 quickly ran to the second floor apartment
- 8 where the child was located. The door was
- 9 locked and there was no response to his
- 10 banging on the door. Knowing that time was of
- 11 the essence, he kicked the door to gain
- 12 access. Officer Chiappone ran over to the
- window and pulled the child to safety.
- 14 A search of the apartment revealed
- 15 that the child was left alone in the
- 16 apartment. After further investigation it was
- determined that the mother had gone to the
- doctor's appointment and left a five year old
- 19 child unsupervised for approximately three
- 20 hours. A police medic evaluated the child and
- 21 was found to be in good health and Child
- 22 Protective Services was notified. The child
- 23 was released to the custody of her uncle at
- 24 the request of her mother.
- 25 If not for these officers quick

- 1 Full 2-7-22
- 2 actions, this story could have had a very
- 3 different ending. The PBA is proud to name
- 4 police officers Michael Chiappone and Patrick
- 5 Castel as legislative top cops for January
- 6 2022.
- 7 COMMISSIONER RYDER: Good
- 8 afternoon. Thank you. Again, I just want to
- 9 say thank you for the support over the
- 10 weekend, thank you for your support today and
- 11 thank you for the support of our two officers
- 12 here. Without that, they go out there knowing
- 13 that they're on their own. They know in this
- 14 county that all of our legislators and our
- 15 county exec always have their back and we
- 16 appreciate that. Thank you.
- MR. CASTEL: My partner and I
- 18 would like to thank the legislative board, the
- 19 PBA president and the police commissioner for
- 20 having us.
- LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Thank you
- 22 very much. I would like to ask Legislator
- 23 Giuffre if he would say a couple of words.
- LEGISLATOR GIUFFRE: So, officers
- 25 to serve and to protect is a motto that we

- 1 Full 2-7-22
- 2 hear. For you it is a life-style. We thank
- 3 you for saving that little girl and for your
- 4 dedication to serving the people of Nassau
- 5 County. God bless you both.
- 6 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: I would
- 7 like to invite the officers up as well as Tom
- 8 Shevlin and Commissioner Ryder for a
- 9 presentation.
- 10 MR. PULITZER: Josh Lafazan has
- 11 checked in.
- 12 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Is there
- any public comment? Again, full legislature.
- 14 Meta, you have something for the full
- 15 legislature, something specific for the
- 16 committees? What do you have?
- MS. MEREDAY: Good afternoon.
- 18 Meta J. Mereday.
- With regard to the full leg and in
- 20 reference to this being Black History Month, I
- 21 wanted to make mention and to pray for the
- families of the campus safety officers in
- 23 Bridgewater College in Virginia. Campus
- safety officer JJ Jefferson and campus safety
- 25 officer John Painter. As one of the students

- 1 Full 2-7-22
- 2 at a HBCU that's being targeted with bomb
- 3 threats we have to do something. And if it
- 4 has to start in Nassau County then it should
- 5 start in Nassau County. But we have to do
- 6 something about all the isms.
- 7 I recall at the last meeting here
- 8 there was a lot of discussion warranted with
- 9 regard to the rise in anti-Semitism. But we
- 10 have a lot of anti-isms in a number of areas
- 11 and racism clearly is among them.
- 12 It is my challenge, my charge to
- this body that we focus on a broad-based
- 14 platform that addresses these scenarios.
- 15 And I'm standing here in February,
- which has been designated as Black History
- 17 Month but Black history, as with Hispanic
- 18 history, Asian history, Jewish history,
- 19 Italian history, again, it goes across the
- 20 board, that is 365 and it should be addressed
- 21 that way. It should be considered that way.
- 22 And the issues that impact all ethnicities,
- 23 racial groups, religious sects and genders
- 24 should be addressed. It should be honored and
- 25 it should be focused on in more manners then

- 1 Full 2-7-22
- 2 mere slogans and things of that nature.
- 3 So, on this specific topic, it is
- 4 my hope, again, as I mentioned at the last
- 5 meeting, one, I don't know what the other
- 6 emergency item is, which is again a disservice
- 7 to taxpayers. We need to have this
- 8 information if it warranted an emergency then
- 9 they should be notified as well. So, if they
- 10 did have a chance to comment they could do
- 11 so. But it's my hope with this particular
- 12 item on this agenda that all residents are
- 13 given the platform and the privilege as well
- 14 as the access to address the issues that
- 15 pertain to what many can construe as their
- voting rights or their access to voting,
- 17 period.
- So, again, it is my hope that this
- 19 is just the starting point and that what
- 20 happens after the fact is going to be open,
- 21 transparent and inclusive to all parties who
- 22 are involved. And most importantly, all
- 23 parties who are impacted and continue to be
- 24 disenfranchised with the voting process
- whether here in Nassau County, in New York

- 1 Full 2-7-22
- 2 State and across the country.
- So again, I pay my taxes here. I
- 4 stand on the foundation that my family helped
- 5 to build. And also want to recognize the
- 6 campus officer, the capital police officer
- 7 Eugene Goodman, who stood in the forefront to
- 8 protect the US Capitol. Again, a structure
- 9 that was built primarily by his ancestors
- 10 because slaves, indentured servants and some
- 11 free people built that capitol in Washington
- 12 D.C. that was desecrated on January 6, 2021.
- 13 Again, I am standing before you
- 14 here with the hope that this item will be
- 15 given the full measure of outreach, support
- 16 and inclusion that it deserves at this
- 17 critical time and critical juncture in this
- 18 nation's history as well as the foundation of
- 19 this county under a new administration that I
- 20 can only hope is much more inclusive with
- 21 regard to not just diversity but also equity
- 22 and also transparency and honesty and fiscal
- 23 management. Thank you.
- 24 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Thank you
- 25 Meta. Let's go to the first hearing, which is

- 1 Full 2-7-22
- 2 a hearing on a proposed local law. It's a
- 3 local law relating to the readjustment or
- 4 alteration of county legislative districts
- 5 subsequent to the dicennial federal census of
- 6 2020.
- 7 Motion to open the hearing by
- 8 Legislator Ferretti. Seconded by Legislator
- 9 Kennedy. All in favor of opening the hearing
- 10 signify by saying aye. Those opposed?
- 11 Hearing's open.
- 12 This item pertains to the first
- 13 step in the redistricting process. It's more
- of a procedural step than anything else. The
- 15 Nassau County Charter requires that the
- 16 boundaries of the 19 legislative districts be
- 17 adjusted every ten years and the charter
- 18 provides a means for accomplishing this. The
- 19 redistricting occurs after the census is
- 20 released every ten years. And this year the
- 21 census was delayed because of COVID. It was
- 22 not released until August 12, 2021.
- Section 112 of the county
- 24 government law requires that within six months
- of the census the legislative must adopt a

- 1 Full 2-7-22
- 2 local law describing the 19 legislative
- 3 districts. The deadline is February 12,
- 4 2022. The local law that we are adopting
- 5 today merely restates the lines that currently
- 6 exist for the legislative districts. These
- 7 are the districts that we have been running
- 8 under for the last ten years. These district
- 9 lines will never be used again as a result of
- 10 the census and constitutional requirements.
- 11 Regardless of the process in the charter they
- 12 must be changed.
- We are following precedent in terms
- of how this was handled 20 years ago by the
- 15 Democratic majority at the time in terms of
- 16 this first step just re-adopting the existing
- 17 district lines. Sections 113 and 114 of the
- 18 county charter govern the substantial process
- 19 that will be followed in getting new district
- 20 lines.
- The next step after today will be
- the appointment of the commissioners who will
- 23 serve on the temporary district advisory
- 24 committee which will be charged with
- 25 developing maps and holding hearings

- 1 Full 2-7-22
- 2 throughout the county and providing all sorts
- 3 of means for input for our residents. So,
- 4 those substantial steps will follow this. But
- for today's purpose we are merely re-adopting
- 6 the existing lines.
- 7 Legislator DeRiggi-Whitton.
- 8 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: Not
- 9 to start out on a bad note, in light of the
- 10 new state law, Chapter 156 Law 202, we've
- 11 basically decided that because that sets out a
- 12 criteria that the county should follow
- 13 regarding redistricting we are concerned that
- some of the actions that this legislature is
- 15 taking now are not consistent with the
- 16 statutory requirements. Without a written
- opinion from our county attorney we feel that
- 18 we are unprepared to support this at this
- 19 time.
- So, basically what our concerns are
- is that some of the lines that are in
- 22 existence today are not in compliance with the
- 23 new law. So, at this point, until we get a
- 24 written opinion from the county attorney,
- 25 which we would like to request now, we plan on

- 1 Full 2-7-22
- 2 abstaining.
- 3 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: I would
- 4 just point out under the existing laws of the
- 5 county that we have to adopt a map by February
- 6 12th. In five days. So, we have to take this
- 7 step before February 12th to be in compliance
- 8 with Section 112.
- 9 And again, these lines will never
- 10 be used for any candidate to ever run for
- 11 legislature again. Simply cannot be used.
- 12 It's more of a procedural step to comply with
- 13 the way the county government law is
- 14 structured. But we hear your request.
- 15 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: I
- 16 understand it. And again, obviously it will
- 17 pass but we just don't feel comfortable
- 18 passing it through at this point because we
- 19 feel that it's not in compliance with the new
- law that just took place. So, we're going to
- 21 abstain.
- 22 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Any other
- comment or discussion among the legislators?
- 24 Any public comment?
- MS. EPSTEIN: May I ask a

- 1 Full 2-7-22
- 2 question?
- 3 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Yes. You
- 4 have to state your name.
- 5 MS. EPSTEIN: My name is Barbara
- 6 Epstein. My question is, when will you be
- 7 appointing the members of the commission?
- 8 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: I believe
- 9 they have to be appointed by early May. So,
- 10 you're talking within the next few weeks the
- 11 appointments will be made by the Majority and
- 12 the Minority.
- MS. EPSTEIN: Will the names of
- 14 the members be posted so that the committee
- and where the procedure will take place with
- 16 the commission's hearings?
- 17 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Yes. The
- names will be posted. There's money that's
- 19 been allocated in our budget for a full
- 20 process involving hearings, involving public
- 21 dissemination of information, etcetera. That
- 22 will all be a matter of public information.
- MS. EPSTEIN: Is there a
- 24 particular way I can get that information?
- 25 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Yes. If

- 1 Full 2-7-22
- 2 you want to give your contact information to
- 3 the clerk's office who will make sure that you
- 4 get advised.
- 5 MS. EPSTEIN: Thank you very
- 6 much.
- 7 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Anyone
- 8 else?
- 9 MS. MEREDAY: In light of
- 10 Legislator DeRiggi-Whitton's statement, I was
- 11 wondering if there was a way, because it is a
- 12 new state law, in terms of getting some type
- of extension, period, from the state with
- 14 regard to that February 12th deadline.
- 15 Secondly, again, you stated that
- this is just a procedural continuance so to
- 17 speak. That there would be no changes. So,
- 18 if that's the fact, I think residents are
- 19 still probably a little confused or concerned
- as to the process for this appointment and the
- 21 procedure and when these new lines would then
- 22 be put into effect. Because they would in
- 23 fact influence election processes particularly
- 24 in this county.
- On the one hand we're just saying

1 Full - 2-7-22

- we're going to keep everything the same and
- 3 everything should be okay along the same
- 4 lines. Then you're saying we're setting up
- 5 committees, we're having meetings, we're
- 6 having appointments and once again, there are
- 7 so many constituencies in this county that
- 8 have felt long-standing disenfranchisement and
- 9 being left out of the process and getting lack
- 10 of information or getting it late.
- How does the one piece, we're
- 12 keeping this as it is, impact the other
- 13 piece? That we need a set of committees, we
- 14 have to have a commission, we have to have a
- process and then we have to decide on how we
- 16 want these districts to look.
- And thirdly, tying it in from a new
- 18 state law, which kind of changes the game in
- 19 many aspects, and you have state courts that
- 20 are striking down redistricting plans that are
- 21 coming from other types of municipalities and
- 22 how is that going to be handled in this region
- when you have one party ruling on one side and
- you have another party ruling on the other and
- 25 the taxpayers are the ones being squeezed out

- 1 Full 2-7-22
- in the middle? If anybody can address that
- 3 particularly with regard to getting some type
- 4 of extension for review and consideration of
- 5 what the state is putting down as far as
- 6 quidelines.
- 7 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: The
- 8 deadline is set by the Nassau County
- 9 government law. In five days we have to take
- 10 action, period. The substantive process will
- 11 unfold after that as per the county charter.
- 12 And ultimately whatever results from that
- 13 process will have to comply with the United
- 14 States Constitution, one man one vote, and
- other principles, the New York State
- 16 Constitution and the laws passed by, recently
- passed by the state legislature. The result
- of the process will be in compliance with
- 19 every one of those requirements.
- But the substantive process in
- 21 terms of defining what the district lines will
- 22 be will be determined by the process as set
- forth. But for today's purposes, we're simply
- 24 complying with the way the charter is written.
- MS. MEREDAY: But you have the

- 1 Full 2-7-22
- 2 opposing side presenting a strong argument
- 3 that's based upon state law. So, again, my
- 4 question has to do with I guess the chains of
- 5 command. So, once again, are we just
- 6 circumventing what is actual state law under
- 7 the guise that we are following constitutional
- 8 procedure based upon a Nassau County
- 9 structural dynamic?
- 10 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: You can
- 11 describe it whatever way you want but --
- MS. MEREDAY: I'm asking a
- 13 question. The other side said they're
- 14 abstaining. They have some valid arguments
- 15 with regard to that.
- 16 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: That's not
- 17 unusual. But the bottom line here is that
- 18 these lines will never ever, ever be used for
- 19 anyone to run for office. So, the more
- 20 important issue is going to be the lines that
- are adopted after the process is over.
- 22 MS. MEREDAY: But these lines are
- 23 always, always used for someone running for
- office because that's generally how they are
- 25 gerrymandered in such a way that you have even

- 1 Full 2-7-22
- 2 if Newsday is saying that certain states are
- 3 realigning their districts to create certain
- 4 structures for certain parties to have power.
- 5 And I'm really focused on making sure that it
- 6 goes honestly. Again, with transparency and
- 7 involvement from across the board.
- 8 So, if the other side, and this is
- 9 new news today, if they're abstaining based
- 10 upon a valid argument I'm just saying why
- 11 can't -- I mean, there are issues that have
- been tabled here on even less on even flimsier
- 13 agendas. That's why I'm asking. If the
- 14 question is going to be kind of dismissed then
- 15 it's kind of business as usual.
- 16 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: We're
- 17 going around in circles. I want to thank
- 18 you. Any other comments on this from the
- 19 public? If not, Legislator Kennedy do you
- want to make a motion to close the hearing?
- 21 Legislator Ferretti seconds the motion. All
- in favor of closing the hearing signify by
- 23 saying aye. Those opposed? The hearing is
- 24 closed.
- Now for a vote on the proposed

- 1 Full 2-7-22
- 2 local law. It's a local law relating to the
- 3 readjustment or alteration of county
- 4 legislative districts subsequent to the
- 5 decennial federal census of 2020.
- 6 Moved by Legislator Walker.
- 7 Seconded by Legislator Schaefer. That item is
- 8 now before the legislature. Any other comment
- 9 or discussion among legislators? If not, all
- 10 in favor signify by saying aye. Those
- 11 opposed? Those abstaining? It passes by a
- vote of 12 votes in the affirmative by the
- 13 Majority with seven votes --
- 14 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: Can
- you mark for the record that Legislator
- 16 Lafazan has voted.
- 17 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: I'm
- 18 sorry. He actually came on a while ago. So
- 19 Legislator Lafazan has participated and voted
- on this item. 12 votes in the affirmative,
- 21 seven votes abstaining. Item passes.
- We are not ready to proceed with
- the emergency item and I'll tell you briefly
- 24 what it is. We are seeking to extend the
- 25 period that people have to challenge their

- 1 Full 2-7-22
- 2 assessment from the current deadline to a date
- 3 later in April. But we're not ready to call
- 4 that just yet. So, I will put the legislature
- 5 in recess and we will move to the Rules
- 6 Committee.
- 7 (Meeting recessed at 1:43 p.m.)
- 8 (Meeting reconvened at 3:36 p.m.)
- 9 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: We're
- 10 going to call the legislature back into
- 11 session. We have one emergency item. I'll
- 12 call the emergency and then we'll need a
- motion to establish the emergency.
- 14 The item is a proposed local law to
- 15 amend the Nassau County administrative code to
- 16 extend the deadline to file an application for
- 17 the correction of an assessment for the
- 18 tentative assessment roll filed on January 3,
- 19 2022.
- We need a motion to establish the
- 21 emergency. Moved by Legislator Giuffre.
- 22 Seconded by Legislator Walker. Any debate or
- 23 discussion on the emergency? All in favor of
- 24 establishing the emergency signify by saying
- 25 aye. Those opposed? The emergency is

1 Full - 2-7-22

- 2 established.
- Now I will call the item. 54 of
- 4 2022 is a proposed local law to amend the
- 5 Nassau County administrative code to extend
- 6 the deadline to file an application for the
- 7 correction of assessment for the tentative
- 8 assessment roll filed on January 3, 2022.
- 9 Moved by Legislator Rhoads.
- 10 Seconded by Legislator McKevitt.
- This is an item which will give the
- 12 residents, homeowners an extension of time to
- 13 file their assessment challenges until April
- 14 30th. The need is based on the fact that the
- 15 notices of tentative assessment did not go out
- 16 until late. So, by failing to send those out
- 17 closer to the beginning of the year, they, in
- 18 effect, will have shortened the challenge
- 19 period for almost all county residents. These
- 20 notices are up on the website but 99.9 percent
- of the county residents see these notices and
- that's what triggers them to evaluate and
- 23 potentially challenge their assessment. Any
- 24 debate or discussion?
- 25 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Yes. If I

- 1 Full 2-7-22
- 2 may?
- 3 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Sure.
- 4 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Thank you
- 5 Rich. I just want to take the opportunity to
- 6 mention that my colleagues and I, on behalf of
- 7 the Democratic caucus, we had written to the
- 8 county executive as well as copying the
- 9 Majority in regards to extending the date for
- 10 being able to file grievances. We have heard
- 11 from many of our constituents that have
- 12 identified that they did not receive their
- previous notices in the proper time.
- 14 However, I do have a question, if
- someone is available, if all the notices have
- 16 been sent out? Because I've still heard from
- 17 several constituents that still have not
- 18 received notices as of today. Is there anyone
- 19 available from the department to be able to
- answer any of those questions? We plan to
- 21 support this. This is something that we would
- 22 like to see. Obviously, like I said before,
- 23 we supported it, we wrote it into a letter,
- but I do have a question in regards to whether
- or not have all the notices, to the best of

- 1 Full 2-7-22
- their knowledge, have gone out to each of the
- 3 homeowners?
- 4 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Chris.
- 5 MR. LEIMONE: Chris Leimone from
- 6 the administration. How are you? I'm not
- 7 sure of that answer but I will follow-up and
- 8 get back to you.
- 9 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: We just
- 10 want to make sure that, you know, we're
- 11 extending the timeline, which is great, but we
- 12 would just like to have an assurance that the
- 13 notices have gone out. In that way we don't
- 14 have to potentially extend the deadline again
- if notices haven't gone out as of today. If
- 16 you could get back to us that would be great.
- 17 Thank you Chris.
- MR. LEIMONE: Yes, will do.
- 19 Thank you.
- 20 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Legislator
- 21 Rhoads.
- 22 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Thanks
- 23 presiding officer. My understanding is, and
- 24 please let me know if I'm speaking
- incorrectly, my understanding is that the

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notices were untimely because the
administration stepped into a roll and notices
that contained about 160,000 errors that they
uncovered and then had to reproduce the
letters.
So, I don't want to leave anyone
with the impression that the lateness was in
any way the responsibility of this
administration. It's kind of having to fix
what they inherited from the prior
administration.
LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Any other
debate or discussion? Any public comments?
All in favor signify by saying aye. Those
opposed? Carries unanimously.
Motion to adjourn by Mazi Pilip,
Legislator Pilip. Seconded by Legislator
Walker. Any debate or discussion? All in
favor signify by saying aye. We are
adjourned.
(Meeting adjourned at 3:44 p.m.)

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2	CERTIFICATION
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4	I, FRANK GRAY, a Notary
5	Public in and for the State of New
6	York, do hereby certify:
7	THAT the foregoing is a true and
8	accurate transcript of my stenographic
9	notes.
10	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have
11	hereunto set my hand this tenth day of
12	February 2022.
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17	FRANK GRAY
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